

Move OAC Section to New Jersey

Production engineering functions at the Joliet Ordnance Ammunition Command will be transferred to Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, N. J., effective July 1, it was announced today.

Major Gen. R. G. Butler, commander of the Army Ordnance Special Weapons-Ammunition Command, in making the announcement, said 145 civilian employees will be affected. He said they will be permitted to transfer to Picatinny Arsenal, if they desire to do so.

Gen. Butler said this operation at OAC involves engineering for production of new items of ammunition and special weapons, and the development of new or improved processing and manufacturing techniques.

He said Picatinny already is engaged in the major portion of the production engineering mission, plus all research and development engineering for ammunition and special weapons. The consolidation will make possible improved responsiveness to the needs of units in the field and reduce the time required to develop, design and manufacture these weapons, he said.

Notices of the transfer were issued Monday to the 145 employees affected. Gen. Butler said employees who decline the transfer will be given consideration for vacancies at OAC, and will be referred to local and state employment offices.

When the Army's streamlining program is completed, Picatinny Arsenal will be the center for the Army Ordnance activities that relate to the research, development and production engineering for ammunition and special weapons, Gen. Butler said.

Activities involving procurement, manufacturing, supply and distribution will continue to be performed at the Joliet Ordnance Ammunition Command, he said.